CLAIMS

We claim:

1   1. A method for providing email that enables a recipient of the email to navigate readily through

2   a set of web pages associated with the email, comprising the acts of:

3   composing an email to be sent from an originator to a recipient;

4   In response to input of the originator, generating a web page navigation that includes a

5   plurality of uniform resource locators and a preferred viewing order in which web pages

6   identified by the plurality of uniform resource locators are to be viewed by the recipient;

7   associating the navigation with the email; and

8   sending the email and the navigation to the recipient.

1   2. A method for guiding a recipient of an email readily through a set of web pages associated

2   with the email, comprising the acts of:

3   receiving an email;

4   receiving a web page navigation associated with the email;

5   passing the web page navigation to a web browser; and

6   displaying by the browser a preferred viewing order in which web pages identified by the

7   web page navigation are to be viewed;

8   wherein the preferred viewing order is included in the navigation.

1   3. A method for providing email that guides a recipient readily through a set of associated web

2   pages, comprising the acts of:

3   composing an email to be sent from an originator to a recipient;

4   in response to input of the originator, generating a web page navigation that includes a

5   plurality of uniform resource locators that identify web pages to be viewed by the recipient in a

6   preferred viewing order;

7   sending the email and the web page navigation to the recipient;

8   passing the web page navigation to a web browser used by the recipient; and

9   displaying by the browser an indication of the preferred viewing order.

1   4. The method of claim 3, wherein the indication of the preferred viewing order is provided by

2   link colors.

1   5. The method of claim 3, wherein the indication of the preferred viewing order is provided by

2   icons.

1   6. The method of claim 3, wherein the indication of the preferred viewing order is provided by

2   font characteristics.

1   7. The method of claim 3, wherein the indication of the preferred viewing order is provided by

2   forward and backward browser controls.

1   8. A method for providing email that guides a recipient readily through a set of associated web

2   pages, comprising the acts of:

3   composing an email to be sent from an originator to a recipient;

4   in response to input of the originator, generating a navigation that includes:

5   a plurality of uniform resource locators that identify web pages to be viewed by

6   the recipient; and

7

8   a color associated with each of the uniform resource locators according to a color

9   code, wherein the color code indicates a preferred viewing order in which the web pages

10   are to be viewed by the recipient; and

11   sending the email and the navigation to the recipient.

1 9. Programmable media containing programmable software for providing email that guides a

2 recipient readily through a set of associated web pages, the programmable software comprising

3 the acts of:

4 composing an email to be sent from an originator to a recipient;

5 in response to input of the originator, generating a web page navigation that includes a

6 plurality of uniform resource locators and a preferred viewing order in which web pages

7 identified by the plurality of uniform resource locators are to be viewed by the recipient;

8 associating the navigation with the email; and

9 sending the email and the navigation to the recipient.

1   10. Programmable media containing programmable software for providing email that guides a

2   recipient readily through a set of associated web pages, the programmable software comprising

3   the acts of:

4   receiving an email;

5   receiving a web page navigation associated with the email;

6   passing the web page navigation to a web browser; and

7   displaying by the browser a preferred viewing order in which web pages identified by the

8   web page navigation are to be viewed;

9   wherein the preferred viewing order is included in the web page navigation.

1   11. Programmable media containing programmable software for providing email that guides a

2   recipient readily through a set of associated web pages, the programmable software comprising

3   the acts of:

4   composing an email to be sent from an originator to a recipient;

5   in response to input of the originator, generating a web page navigation that includes a

6   plurality of uniform resource locators that identify web pages to be viewed by the recipient in a

7   preferred viewing order;

8   sending the email and the web page navigation to the recipient;

9   passing the web page navigation to a web browser used by the recipient; and

10   displaying by the browser an indication of the preferred viewing order.

1   12. The method of claim 11, wherein the indication of the preferred viewing order is provided by

2   link colors.

1   13. The method of claim 11, wherein the indication of the preferred viewing order is provided by

2   icons.

1   14. The method of claim 11, wherein the indication of the preferred viewing order is provided by

2   font characteristics.

1   15. The method of claim 11, wherein the indication of the preferred viewing order is provided by

2   forward and backward browser controls.

1   16. Programmable media containing programmable software for providing email that guides a

2   recipient readily through a set of associated web pages, the programmable software comprising

3   the acts of:

4   composing an email to be sent from an originator to a recipient;

5   in response to input of the originator, generating a navigation that includes:

6   a plurality of uniform resource locators that identify web pages to be viewed by

7   the

8   recipient; and

9   a color associated with each of the uniform resource locators according to a color

10   code, wherein the color code indicates a preferred viewing order in which the web pages

11   are to be viewed by the recipient; and

12   sending the email and the navigation to the recipient.